



Idaho Transportation Department



**COMPASS**

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

of Southwest Idaho

# U.S. 20/26 Corridor Preservation Study

May 2006

# Tonight's Meeting

- Present brief slide show
- Review displays
- Participate in a discussion group
- Provide written comments





# Significance in Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan

## *COMPASS Communities In Motion*

- 2<sup>nd</sup> to I-84 in amount of daily regional travel
- Recommended for preservation as an expressway with grade-separated intersections every mile

## *Community Choices Scenario*

- Changes Growth Trend
- Focuses Growth to Areas of City Impact

# Study Process

- ▶ Stakeholder Interviews
- ▶ Gather Technical Data
- ▶ Public Meeting I - Scoping
  - ▶ Identify and Evaluate Alternative Solutions
  - ▶ Public Meeting 2 – Review Alternatives
  - ▶ Refine Alternatives and Identify Preferred
    - ▶ Prepare Environmental Assessment
    - ▶ Public Meeting 3 – Public Hearing on Preferred Alternative and the Environmental Document
    - ▶ Prepare Corridor Plan
    - ▶ Adoption by Agencies and Local Governments



# Context of Corridor

## Existing Conditions

- Existing Features/Conditions
  - Predominantly 2-lane rural highway
  - Current speed limit of 55 mph
  - Increase urban development along the highway
- Existing Traffic Volumes (vehicles per day)
  - Eagle to Black Cat: 14,000 – 21,400
  - Black Cat to Midland: 12,000 – 15,000
  - Midland to I-84: 10,000 – 12,000

# Context of Corridor Existing Conditions

## Existing Crash History (January 1999 - July 2005)

- Total Crashes: 500
- Fatal Crashes: 8
- Injury Crashes: 230
- 338 access-related crashes (67%)
- 73% of injury crashes were access-related
- 62% of fatal crashes were access-related

# Future Conditions

## Land Use and Growth Projections

- Additional 9,000 new households forecasted within the study area

## Traffic Projections in Year 2030 (vehicles per day)

- Eagle to Black Cat: 38,000 – 52,000
- Black Cat to Midland: 24,000 – 32,000
- Midland to I-84: 19,000 – 23,000



# Benefits of Access Management

- Improved Movement of Through Traffic
  - Maintain current travel times
  - May improve capacity by 20-40%
- Crash rate may drop 40%



# Roadside Features to be Considered

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Access (pathways, sidewalks)
- Landscaping
- Lighting
- Median Type

# ITD Projects Underway

## SH-16 Extension

- Study to begin this year

## Exit 29, Franklin Road Interchange Upgrade in Caldwell

- Design completed, construction to begin this year

## Chinden widening east of Eagle Road in progress

# Contacts

## COMPASS

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